

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 02668 151336Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 /051 W  
-----151339Z 090140 /44

O R 151305Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5737  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 2668

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, IS  
SUBJECT: RABIN TO GO ON LEAVE

REFS: (A) TEL AVIV 2554, (B) TEL AVIV 2611

1. PRIME MINISTER RABIN HAS NOW DECIDED TO GO ON LEAVE  
AND TO RECOMMEND THAT DEFENSE MINISTER PERES CARRY OUT  
THE FUNCTIONS OF PRIME MINISTER. RABIN WILL LEAVE  
AFTER INDEPENDENCE DAY (APRIL 21) AND WILL REMAIN ON  
LEAVE UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTION ON MAY 17. HE  
REACHED HIS DECISION FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITH  
PERES, FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON, JUSTICE MINISTER  
ZADOK AND MINISTER WITHOUT PROTFOLIO GALILI. IN A  
RELATED DEVELOPMENT, MRS. RABIN WAS FORMALLY  
CHARGED IN THE TEL AVIV DISTRICT COURT APRIL 14  
WITH POSSESSION OF FOREIGN CURRENCY; THE TRAIL IS  
EXPECTED TO BE HELD NEXT WEEK.

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2. COMMENT: PRESSURE HAD BEEN GROWING ON RABIN  
AND ADVERSE PRESS COMMENT HAD BEEN INCREASING  
SINCE HIS ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE CABINET ON APRIL 12  
THAT HE WOULD REMAIN IN OFFICE UNTIL A NEW  
GOVERNMENT WAS FORMED. COMMENTATORS ARGUED THAT  
IT WAS UNTENABLE FOR RABIN TO REMAIN AS PRIME  
MINISTER AFTER HAVING ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO

RESIGN AND HAVING SAID HE WOULD WITHDRAW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. LABOR PARTY COLLEAGUES PRESSED HIM TO LEAVE IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE PARTY'S SMOOTH TRANSITION OF POWER AND TO ENHANCE ITS IMAGE AS A UNITED PARTY FOR ELECTORAL PURPOSES.

3. MANY LABOR PARTY MEMBERS SAW RABIN'S EFFORT TO REMAIN IN OFFICE AS A DESIRE TO IMPEDE PERES IN HIS TAKEOVER OF THE PARTY LEADERSHIP. HIS DEPARTURE WILL, THEREFORE, BE PERCEIVED AS SOMETHING OF A VICTORY FOR PERES WITHIN THE PARTY. THERE WAS ALSO THE VIEW THAT RABIN WISHED TO STAY IN OFFICE IN ORDER TO INCREASE HIS CHANCES OF A RETURN TO POWER. HE WILL BE NUMBER TWENTY ON THE ALIGNMENT ELECTION LIST AND THUS ASSURED OF A SEAT IN THE KNESSET. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT HE WILL BE READY TO CAPITALIZE ON ANY MISTAKE SHOULD PERES STUMBLE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TELAV02668  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770131-0864  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** TEL AVIV  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770451/aaaabryj.tel  
**Line Count:** 81  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 98edcba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 TEL AVIV 2554, 77 TEL AVIV 2611  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2789032  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RABIN TO GO ON LEAVE  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, IS, (RABIN, YITSHAK)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/98edcba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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